



**North
West
Water**

Dawson House, Great Sankey
Warrington WA5 3LW
Telephone Penketh 4321

F2/B15

9th October, 1979

To: Members of the North Cumbria Fisheries
Advisory Committee;
(Messrs A.E.I.Bell; E.Cave; T.Cousins;
E.P.Ecroyd; A.C.Findlay; B.Irving;
J.S.Marshall; Wm.McKenna; R.K.Nicholson;
Dr.I.J.Faulkner; and the Chairman of the
Authority (G. Mann); the Vice Chairman
of the Authority (A. Richardson) and the
Chairman of the Regional Fisheries Advisory
Committee (T.A.F. Barnes) (ex officio)).

Dear Sir,

A meeting of the NORTH CUMBRIA FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE will be held at 2.30 p.m. on TUESDAY, 16TH OCTOBER, 1979, at the NORTH CUMBRIA AREA OFFICE OF THE RIVERS DIVISION, CHERTSEY HILL, LONDON ROAD, CARLISLE, for consideration of the following business.

Yours faithfully,

G. W. SHAW,

Director of Administration

A G E N D A

1. Appointment of Chairman.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Minutes of the last meeting (enclosed herewith along with the Minutes of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee held on 12th July, 1979).
4. Cormorant population - North Cumbria.
5. Goosanders and Mergansers (Oral Report).
6. Report by the Area Fisheries Officer on Fisheries Activities.
- *7. Draft netting rights - River Eden - Carlisle City Free Boat Fishing Right.
8. Any other business.

*NOTE: The report relating to Item 7 is enclosed for Members only.

F1/B26

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
NORTH CUMBRIA FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

26TH JUNE, 1979

Present: E.P.Ecroyd, Esq., (Chairman)
E.Cave, Esq. B.Irving, Esq.
T.Cousins, Esq. J.S.Marshall, Esq.
R.K.Nicholson, Esq.

31. MR.P.J.LIDDELL.

The Chairman paid tribute to Mr.Peter Liddell, former Chairman of the Authority, who died on 11th May, 1979. Members stood in silence as a mark of respect.

32. RETIREMENT OF MR.N.MACKENZIE, AREA FISHERIES OFFICER.

The Chairman referred to the impending retirement of Mr.Norman Mackenzie, the Northern Area Fisheries Officer, and in expressing his appreciation of Mr.Mackenzie's services to fisheries wished him a long and happy retirement.

Members and Officers associated themselves with the Chairman's sentiments.

Mr.Mackenzie thanked the Chairman, Members and his colleagues for their support in the past and their best wishes for the future.

The Chairman then introduced Mr.Mackenzie's successor as Northern Area Fisheries Officer, Dr.C.Harpley to the Committee.

33. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Mr.T.A.F. Barnes, Mr.A.E.I.Bell, Mr.A.C.Findlay, Mr.G.Mann and Mr.Wm.McKenna.

34. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 3rd April, 1979, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

35. YORKSHIRE WATER AUTHORITY ROD AND LINE REGULATIONS.

The Committee received a report which detailed the rod and line regulations currently in force in the Yorkshire Water Authority area in relation to keep nets and landing nets.

36. FISHING EFFORT - SOLWAY ESTUARY.

The Regional Fisheries Officer reported on progress made in attempting to reduce the fishing effort on the Solway shores.

He had recently attended a meeting with the Scottish interests concerning irregularities in netting activities on the Scottish side of the Solway. The Scottish interests had undertaken to look into the matter but there was no further information to date. He had also discussed the matter with the Director of Salmon Fisheries for Scotland who in turn had taken the matter up with the Annan Fisheries Board, from whom a reply was awaited.

Until some action was taken by the Scottish representatives on the alleged irregularities and until a reply was received from them on the matters discussed, there was little point in holding a further meeting.

The Regional Fisheries Officer informed the Committee that he would again endeavour to get some clarification on the points raised at the meeting from the Scottish side.

37. INCOME FROM SALE OF ROD AND LINE LICENCES 1978.

A report was submitted which summarised the income from the sale of rod and line licences during 1978. Numbers of licences sold showed increases in all groups except that of the salmon and migratory trout season licence. The greatest increase in the number of licences sold continued to be in the freshwater fish and eels group.

38. FISHING OFFENCES AND PROSECUTIONS 1978/79.

A report was submitted setting out the fishing offences and prosecutions undertaken by the Authority for such offences during 1978/79. The report also detailed the numbers of the offences and prosecutions within the Committee's area during the same period.

The Regional Fisheries Officer reported that on a recent spot check carried out by bailiffs within the Mersey and Weaver area, 580 anglers had been approached and all were in possession of the necessary licence. Similarly, a further check carried out during the weekend 15th/16th June in that area, revealed that only 2 anglers out of 120 checked were not in possession of a licence at the time.

The Committee expressed concern that fines imposed by different courts for fishing offences were not consistent and it was explained that imposition of fines was a matter for a particular court alone. Magistrates Courts throughout the area had been supplied with copies of the fishery byelaws.

39. REPORT BY THE AREA FISHERIES OFFICER ON FISHERIES ACTIVITIES

The Area Fisheries Officer presented his report on fisheries activities within the area since the last meeting of the Committee.

In response to questions concerning the re-stocking of the River Petterill following a pollution caused by a tanker accident in 1969 the officers agreed to give this consideration. Members stated that very little stocking of this river had been carried out since the incident although the Penrith Angling Association had carried out some restocking in the last two years.

On Item 4 of the report, "predators", the Regional Fisheries Officer reported that earlier this year at the request of the Lune, Wyre and Furness Committee he had taken up the matter of predating goosanders and mergansers with the Nature Conservancy Officer at Grange-over-Sands and had been informed that the Nature Conservancy Council were of the opinion that this was not a serious problem. In the Council's view the feeding habits of these birds did not constitute a hazard to young salmonids, due to the relatively few breeding pairs in the north of England. This however seemed to be at variance with the check on breeding populations of these birds carried out by the bailiffs during 1978. The Council had been asked if they were willing to help with a check on breeding pairs and their populations in the areas of the Rivers Leven, Kent and Lune and had suggested that this could be undertaken by either themselves or by an appropriate University research department over a three year period under the supervision of the Council's chief scientific officer. The cost of such a survey would however have to be met by the Authority.

The RSPB were against the destruction of these birds as they also thought that they did not constitute a threat to fisheries due to their lack of numbers.

The Committee were of the opinion that help of the nature suggested by the Council should be sought forthwith to enable the facts to be properly established.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Authority authorise an investigation by a University under the supervision of the Nature Conservancy Council or by the Council itself into the populations of goosanders and mergansers and their impact on juvenile salmonids on waters throughout the region.

40. DRAFT NETTING RIGHTS - RIVER EDEN - CARLISLE CITY FREE BOAT FISHING RIGHT.

A report was submitted which detailed the current position in relation to the progress made by the Authority's Estates Department in establishing the ownership of the netting rights on the River Eden.

It was explained that in view of the restrictions presently imposed by the government upon public expenditure, the officers considered that before making any recommendation on the acquisition of the Carlisle City Boat Right or any others on the Eden at the present time, the attitude of the Authority should be obtained.

After full discussion, the Committee

RECOMMENDED:

- (1) That in the view of the Committee, it is essential for the protection of fisheries on the River Eden that the Authority acquire the Carlisle City Free Boat Fishing Right, on the understanding that this netting right will not be exercised by the Authority.
- (2) That in the opinion of the Committee it is considered essential for the maintenance and improvement of fisheries on the River Eden that the Authority acquire all netting rights on that river.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
REGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

12TH JULY, 1979

Present: T.A.F. Barnes, Esq. W.F. Hobson, Esq.
 J.S. Bailey, Esq. R.D. Houghton, Esq.
 A.G.R. Brown, Esq. J. Johnson, Esq.
 J.M. Croft, Esq. R.A. Parkin, Esq.
 E.P. Ecroyd, Esq. A. Richardson, Esq.
 J.H. Fell, Esq. Mrs. D. Wilson
 G. Wilson, Esq.

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED:

That Mr. T.A.F. Barnes be appointed Chairman of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee for the ensuing 'Authority Year'.

(T.A.F. BARNES, ESQ., CHAIRMAN).

On behalf of the Committee, Mr. Houghton expressed his appreciation of Mr. Barnes' Chairmanship of the Committee during the past year and complimented him on his reappointment. Mr. Barnes replied appropriately.

2. MR. P.J. LIDDELL

The Chairman paid tribute to Mr. Peter Liddell, former Chairman of the Authority, who died on 11th May, 1979. Mr. Liddell had special knowledge and interest in fisheries and his death was a great loss to fisheries both locally and nationally. Members stood in silence as a mark of respect.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Mr. T.M. Farrer, Mr. G. Mann and Mr. L.B. Williams.

4. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME TO MEMBERS

The Chairman welcomed Mr. A. Richardson, recently appointed Vice Chairman of the Authority, and Messrs. A.G.R. Brown and J. Johnson to their first meeting of the Advisory Committee. In doing so he reiterated the role and constitution of the Committee and the Local Advisory Committees as envisaged by the Authority on its inception and stressed that members should at all times consider themselves representatives of fisheries as a whole, both coarse and game, throughout the Authority's area, and not as the delegates of a particular angling organisation or interest.

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 30th April, 1979, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

6. MINUTES OF LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES

A. Mersey and Weaver

The Chairman of the Mersey and Weaver Advisory Committee submitted the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting held on 20th June, 1979.

RESOLVED:

(1) That the Minutes of the meeting of the Mersey and Weaver Advisory Committee held on 20th June, 1979, be received.

(2) That the recommendation contained in Minute No. 26(b) (Minutes of the last Meeting - Redundant Reservoirs) be considered under the appropriate Agenda item.

(3) That the recommendation contained in Minute No. 31 (Report by the Area Fisheries Officer on Fisheries Activities - Proposed increase in Bailiffing Staff for Mersey and Weaver area) be accepted for submission to the Finance and Personnel Sub-Committee for approval.

B. Derwent and West Cumbria

The Chairman of the Derwent and West Cumbria Advisory Committee submitted the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting held on 25th June, 1979.

RESOLVED:

(1) That the Minutes of the meeting of the Derwent and West Cumbria Advisory Committee held on 25th June, 1979, be received.

(2) That the resolution contained in Minute No. 37 (British Nuclear Fuels Limited - Proposals for Abstraction from Wastwater) be accepted for submission to the Water Management Committee for approval.

C. North Cumbria

The Chairman of the North Cumbria Advisory Committee submitted the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting held on 26th June, 1979.

RESOLVED:

(1) That subject to the deletion of the word 'Director' and the substitution of the words 'Chief Inspector' in the fifth line of the second paragraph of Minute No. 36 (Fishing

Effort - Solway Estuary), the Minutes of the meeting of the North Cumbria Advisory Committee held on 26th June, 1979, as amended, be received.

(2) That the recommendation contained in Minute No. 39 (Report by the Area Fisheries Officer on Fisheries Activities - Goosanders and Mergansers) be considered along with the recommendation contained in Minute No. 43(b) of the Lune, Wyre and Furness Advisory Committee of 2nd July, 1979, under item No. 4E of the Agenda.

(3) That consideration of the recommendations contained in Minute No. 40 (Draft Netting Rights - River Eden - Carlisle City Free Boat Fishing Right) be deferred until the conclusion of the remaining items on the Agenda.

D. South Lancashire

The Chairman of the South Lancashire Advisory Committee submitted the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting held on 27th June, 1979.

- (a) In relation to Minute No. 36 (Minutes of the last Meeting - Monitoring of Level of Radioactivity in Migratory Fish), the Chairman of the South Lancashire Committee stated that his Committee had made this recommendation in order to ascertain exact details of the investigations carried out by MAFF into the effects of radioactivity in the sea on marine life. The Chairman of the North Cumbria Committee suggested that similar efforts should be made by the Authority to acquire data on the investigations (if any) carried out in respect of Scottish sea areas, which could possibly effect the Rivers Eden and Esk in which his Committee had a particular interest. The Officers explained that copies of the detailed reports relating to the surveys undertaken by MAFF over the past few years were held by the Authority. Because of the bulk of this data it was impractical to consider its reduction into a single report, it would, however, be possible for the reports as printed to be made available at the next round of meetings of the appropriate Committees. The Regional Fisheries Officer undertook to enquire into the availability of similar information for Scottish sea areas. The Chairman of the South Lancashire Committee confirmed that these arrangements were acceptable to him and would be so to his Committee.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Minutes of the meeting of the South Lancashire Advisory Committee held on 27th June, 1979, be received.

(2) That in view of the information to be made available to the appropriate Committees (as detailed at (a) above), with the approval of the respective Chairmen no further action be taken on the recommendation contained in Minute No. 36 (Minutes of the last Meeting - Monitoring of level of Radioactivity in Migratory Fish).

(3) That the recommendations contained in Minute No. 43 (Stocks Reservoir) be accepted for submission to the Water Management Committee for approval.

E. Lune, Wyre and Furness

The Chairman of the Lune, Wyre and Furness Advisory Committee submitted the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting held on 2nd July, 1979.

In relation to Minute No. 49 (Lancashire Conjunctive Use Scheme), the Chairman requested that the first five lines of the second paragraph of this Minute up to and including the word 'tunnel', be deleted and the following substituted:

"Trout in cages had been placed at intervals in the River Wyre from Abbeystead downstream to Catterall. The fish caged at Abbeystead had suffered no ill effects from this first trial whereas all caged fish downstream had died. No losses had been reported amongst wild fish. The mortalities amongst the caged fish had not been caused by free chlorine in the water from the first disinfection of the tunnel".

RESOLVED:

(1) That the Minutes of the meeting of the Lune, Wyre and Furness Advisory Committee held on 2nd July, 1979, as amended, be received.

(2) That following consideration of the recommendations of the North Cumbria Advisory Committee at their meeting held on 26th June, 1979, contained in Minute No. 39 (Report by the Area Fisheries Officer on Fisheries Activities - Goosanders and Mergansers), and of Minute No. 43(b) (Minutes of the last Meeting - Populations of Goosanders and Mergansers) of the Lune, Wyre and Furness Committee, the recommendation contained in Minute No. 43(b) (which also catered for the recommendation of the North Cumbria Committee), be accepted for submission to the Water Management Committee for approval.

(3) That in view of the arrangements undertaken by the Authority in relation to liaison with the owners of fisheries, no further action be taken in relation to the recommendation contained in Minute No. 47 (Fishing Offences and Prosecutions 1978/79) concerning the theft of fish from private waters.

7. APPOINTMENT OF REGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE 1979/80

At the meeting held on 18th June, 1979, the Authority appointed those members set out in Appendix 1 to these Minutes to the Committee for 1979/80.

It was noted that membership of the Committee had been increased (by 4 to a total of 22) to reflect the recent increase in local authority representation on the Authority. Some of the local authorities had yet to appoint their representatives on the Authority and the Chairman of the Authority had been authorised to make appointments to the Committee once the representatives were known. The Authority had also agreed that the Chairmen of the five Local Advisory Committees should henceforth serve as ex-officio members of the Committee.

8. MEMBERSHIP AND APPOINTMENT OF
LOCAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEES 1979/80

Consideration was given to membership of the five Local Fisheries Advisory Committees for the year 1979/80. It was proposed that the existing Local Committees should continue in their present form and with their present membership, subject to any recommendation by the North Cumbria Committee concerning the two vacancies on that Committee and any recommendation by the Derwent and West Cumbria Committee concerning the one vacancy on that Committee. The Committee was then invited to confirm the following nominations in respect of vacancies which had arisen on the three remaining Local Committees:-

- (1) Recommendation of the Mersey and Weaver Advisory Committee (Minute No. 27, 20th June, 1979), that Mr. P. Neal of 16 Kingston Gardens, Hyde, Cheshire, the nominee of the Mersey and Weaver Anglers Consultative Association, succeed the late Mr. P.W. Jennings on that Committee.
- (2) Recommendation of the South Lancashire Advisory Committee (Minute No. 37, 27th June, 1979), that Mr. G. Jones of 1 Caernarvon Road, Preston, the nominee of the Lancashire Fisheries Consultative Association, succeed Mr. T.A. Blackledge on that Committee.
- (3) Recommendation of the Lune, Wyre and Furness Advisory Committee (Minute No. 44, 2nd July, 1979), that Mr. H.B. Whittam of 29 Lyndhurst Road, Ulverston, the nominee of the Furness and South Cumbria Fisheries Association, succeed Mr. J. Taylor on that Committee.

RESOLVED:

(1) That the members listed in Appendix 2 to these Minutes be appointed to the respective Local Advisory Committees for the ensuing 'Authority Year'.

(2) That the appointment of Mr. P. Neal to the Mersey and Weaver Advisory Committee be confirmed.

(3) That the appointment of Mr. G. Jones to the South Lancashire Advisory Committee be confirmed.

(4) That the appointment of Mr. H.B. Whittam to the Lune, Wyre and Furness Advisory Committee be confirmed.

9. APPOINTMENT OF FISHERIES REPRESENTATIVES TO
LOCAL LAND DRAINAGE COMMITTEES

The constitution of the Land Drainage Advisory Committees provides for one member to represent fisheries interests on each of the Lancashire and Mersey and Weaver Committees and two members for those interests on the Cumberland Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the existing members, Mr. E.P. Ecroyd and Mr. W.F. Hobson, be reappointed to serve on the Cumberland Committee; Mr. J.H. Fell on the Lancashire Committee and Mr. J.S. Bailey on the Mersey and Weaver Committee.

10. INCOME FROM SALE OF ROD AND LINE LICENCES 1978

The Committee received a report which summarised income received by the Authority from the sale of rod and line licences, during 1978. Although licence duties for 1978 had been increased by approximately 30% from the 1977 values, numbers of licences sold showed increases in all groups except that of the salmon and migratory trout season licence. The greatest increase in the number of licences sold continued to be in the freshwater fish and eels groups.

MAFF were currently considering the proposals to introduce a new scale of licence duties from 1st January, 1980. Forty-two objections had been received to the proposals, the majority from coarse anglers who, inter alia, complained of the lack of a viable fisheries service in the Authority's southern region. The Regional Fisheries Officer had accordingly some two months previously written to the Secretary of the National Federation of Anglers, (North West Region) requesting details of the coarse anglers' complaints concerning the service and requesting constructive criticism and advice to alleviate the situation. To date he had not received a reply. Mr. Johnson undertook to look into this matter on behalf of the NFA.

11. FISHING OFFENCES AND PROSECUTIONS 1978/79

The Committee received a report which set out the fishing offences and prosecutions undertaken by the Authority for these offences during 1978/79. Detailed reports concerning each committee area, had been submitted to the respective Local Advisory Committees at their June/July round of meetings.

On behalf of the National Federation of Anglers (North West Region), Mr. Johnson complimented the bailiffing staff upon their efficient enforcement of the law in relation to the recent coarse fish close season.

12. DISPOSAL OF REDUNDANT PROPERTIES

It was noted that on 21st May, 1979, the Policy and Resources Committee had endorsed the recommendation made by the Committee at the meeting held on 30th April, 1979 (Minute No. 54) concerning the disposal of redundant properties and that this recommendation had in turn been approved by the Authority at the meeting held on 18th June, 1979.

It was reported that at the meeting of the Mersey and Weaver Committee on 20th June, 1979, (Minute No. 26(b)) that Committee had discussed the acquisition during the late 1960's of Bow Lee Reservoir by the Middleton Angling Association and its subsequent use as a fishery and had recommended as follows:

"That the circumstances of the acquisition of Bow Lee Reservoir and its use as a fishery by the Middleton Angling Association be examined by the Authority to ascertain whether similar arrangements might be made for the benefit of fisheries in relation to any of the Authority's redundant reservoirs".

The Committee having been reminded of the stringent safety measures imposed upon the Authority by the law in relation to the disposal of redundant reservoirs, together with the recently approved policy in such matters (as described in paragraph 1 above) it was

RESOLVED:

That the circumstances concerning the acquisition of Bow Lee Reservoir by the Middleton Angling Association be investigated by the officers.

13. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 - EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That because of the confidential nature of the following item the public be excluded from the meeting during its consideration.

14. DRAFT NETTING RIGHTS - RIVER EDEN - CARLISLE CITY FREE BOAT FISHING RIGHT

It was reported that at their meeting held on 26th June, 1979 (Minute No. 40), the North Cumbria Committee had discussed a report which detailed the current position in relation to the progress made by the Authority's Estates Department in establishing the ownership of the netting rights on the River Eden and had recommended as follows:

"(1) That in the view of the Committee, it is essential for the protection of fisheries on the River Eden that the Authority acquire the Carlisle City Free Boat Fishing Right, on the understanding that this netting right will not be exercised by the Authority.

(2) That in the opinion of the Committee it is considered essential for the maintenance and improvement of fisheries on the River Eden that the Authority acquire all netting rights on that river".

It was explained that in view of the restrictions presently imposed by the Government upon public expenditure, the officers considered that before making any recommendation on the leasing of the Carlisle City Boat Right or any others (not at present available) on the Eden at the present time, the attitude of the Authority should be obtained.

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations of the Local Committee be accepted for submission to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval.

15. POLLUTION INCIDENT - ESCAPE OF GAS OIL INTO
THE RIVERS KEEKLE AND EHEN

In response to questions concerning the recent pollution incident whereby an estimated 16,000 gallons of gas oil had been released into the Rivers Keekle and Ehen through the alleged action of vandals, the Regional Fisheries Officer informed the Committee that he was to attend a meeting on Monday 16th July, to be held at the headquarters of the Egremont and District Anglers, to discuss the situation.

Although oil booms had been placed into the river systems at various points in an endeavour to halt the oil flow, a large amount of oil had penetrated to the sea. It was estimated that some 10,000 fish had been killed as a result of the pollution mainly sea trout parr and smolts. 20 to 30 mg of extra water had been released from Ennerdale on 5th July, in an endeavour to flush out residual oil but short of a big flood, oil would probably remain in the river systems for some considerable time. All possible steps were being taken to stabilise the situation.

16. ZANDER

In response to questions concerning the introduction of Zander into inland waters, the Regional Fisheries Officer stated that the introduction of all fish to waters within a water authority area was governed by the consent procedure under section 30 of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act, 1975. The Zander was an exotic fish and he would certainly not countenance its introduction to waters within the Authority area. It would, however, be virtually impossible to prevent illegal introduction of these or any other species of fish.

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYREGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE 1979/80Nominated to the Authority by

T.A.F. Barnes		Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food
T.M. Farrer		Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food
R.A. Parkin		Secretary of State for the Environment
Mrs. D. Wilson		Secretary of State for the Environment
G. Mann	(ex officio)*	Secretary of State for the Environment
A. Richardson	(ex officio)*	Secretary of State for the Environment
Mrs. W. Lomas		Greater Manchester County Council
L.B. Williams		Merseyside County Council
4 vacancies		Local Authorities
A.G.R. Brown)	
J.H. Fell)	Appointed as persons interested in
J. Johnson)	fisheries in the area.
Wm. McKenna)	
G. Wilson)	
J.S. Bailey	(ex officio)	Chairman Mersey & Weaver Local Committee
J.M. Croft	(ex officio)	Chairman Lune, Wyre & Furness Local Committee
E.P. Ecroyd	(ex officio)	Chairman North Cumbria Local Committee
W.F. Hobson	(ex officio)	Chairman Derwent & W.Cumbria Local Committee
R.D. Houghton	(ex officio)	Chairman South Lancashire Local Committee

* NOTE: Mr. Mann and Mr. Richardson are ex-officio members of the Committee by virtue of their positions as Chairman of the Authority and Vice-Chairman of the Authority respectively.

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYLOCAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEES 1979/80NORTH CUMBRIA

Chairman: E.P.Ecroyd,
Low House, Armathwaite, Carlisle, Cumbria. CA4 9ST

A.E.I.Bell, 12 Hallpath, Langholm, Dumfriesshire.
E.Cave, 9 Brunton Crescent, Carlisle, Cumbria. CA1 2AX
T.Cousins, 28 Maybrough Avenue, Penrith, Cumbria.
Dr.I.J.Faulkner, 5 Fulwith Grove, Harrogate, North Yorkshire. HG2 8HN
A.C.Findlay, Buccleugh Estates, Irvine House, Canonbie, Dumfriesshire.
D G 1 4 O X G

B.Irving, 22 Moss Rigg, Morton, Carlisle, Cumbria.
J.S.Marshall, Little Cross, Appleby, Cumbria.
Wm.McKenna, 6 Spencer Street, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA1 1DA
R.K.Nicholson, Sleaston How, Kirkby Thore, Penrith, Cumbria.
2 vacancies

DERWENT AND WEST CUMBRIA

Chairman: W.F.Hobson,
Hillside, Cockermouth, Cumbria.

F.Bunting, 30 Dent Road, Mirehouse, Whitehaven.
A.Gleaden, 12 Meadowfield, Gosforth, Cumbria.
J.M.Mawson, Stone House, Scales, Aspatria, Cumbria.
S.G.Payne, Fisheries Manager, The Castle, Cockermouth, Cumbria.
G.B. Sedgwick, 8 Belle Vue, Cockermouth, Cumbria.
R.J.W.Slack, Hartlow, Silloth, Cumbria.
G.N.F.Wingate, O.B.E., D.L., Bridge End House, Cockermouth, Cumbria.
CA13 OHW
E.Young, 'Gate Ghyll', Brigham, Cockermouth, Cumbria.
1 vacancy

LUNE, WYRE & FURNESS

Chairman: J.M.Croft,
Orchard Farm, Whittingham Lane, Barton, Preston. PR3 5DD

W.Bailey, 10 Mallowdale Road, Lancaster.
R.Barratt, Cowmire Hall, Crosthwaite, Kendal, Cumbria.
R.A.Challenor, Green End, Mansergh, Carnforth, Lancashire.
Major N.J.Clarkson Webb, Buckstone House, Carnforth, Lancashire.
Dr.J.V.Dyer, District Community Physician, Administrative Offices,
Slyne Road, Lancaster. LA1 2HT
J.H.Fell, White Gates, Backbarrow, Ulverston, Cumbria. LA12 8PA.
R.Harper, Collin Field Farm, Kendal, Cumbria.
A.L.Harris, Blunt How, 12 Eden Park, Scotforth, Lancaster.
G.A.Martin, The Spinney, Levens, Kendal, Cumbria.
* H.B.Whittam, 29 Lyndhurst Road, Ulverston, Cumbria.
G.Wilson, 11 Guildford Avenue, Chorley, Lancashire.

SOUTH LANCASHIRE

Chairman: R.D.Houghton,
13/15 Winckley Street, Preston. PR1 2BJ.

Dr.R.B.Broughton, 9 Victoria Road, Salford.6.

A.G.R.Brown, 10 Dale Road, Golborne, Nr.Warrington.

J.Clegg, 420 Market Street, Whitworth, OL12 8QN.

J.Johnson, 97 Liverpool Road North, Maghull.

* G.Jones, 1 Caernarvon Road, Preston, Lancashire.

Professor W.E.Kershaw, Mill Farm, Hesketh Bank, Nr.Preston,
Lancashire PR4 6RA

J.P.Lord, Spring Bank, Cow Ark, via Clitheroe, Lancashire.

R.H.Wiseman, 5 Ribblesdale Place, Barrowford, Nr.Nelson, Lancs.

MERSEY & WEAVER

Chairman: J.S.Bailey,
24 Sandyhill Road, Winsford, Cheshire.

D.Bridgewood, Horsepool Cottages, Mellor, Nr. Stockport.

F.Egerton, 19 Bowden Drive, Northwich, Cheshire.

A.Jones, Orrell Hill Farm, Ince Blundell, Hightown, Liverpool.

Dr.A.G.Kennedy Young, 'Fairways' Ladythorn Crescent, Bramhall,Stockport.

* P.Neal, 16 Kingston Gardens, Hyde, Cheshire.

R.Newton, 3 Old Park Lane, Macclesfield, Cheshire.

J.A.Shanahan, 4 Sunninghill Street, Bolton, Lancashire.

Dr.M.Pugh Thomas, 25 Canning Street, Liverpool.

NOTE The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Authority and the
Chairman of the Regional Committee serve on each Local
Committee in an ex officio capacity.

* Approved by the Committee on 12th July, 1979.

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITY

NORTH CUMBRIA
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

16TH OCTOBER, 1979

CORMORANT POPULATION - NORTH CUMBRIA

1. At their meeting on 3rd April, 1979 (Minute No. 27) the Committee expressed concern over the apparent increase in cormorant population since the discontinuance of bounty payments. It was agreed at the meeting that clubs and associations within the area should be asked to forward their observations on the 1979 cormorant populations for consideration at this meeting of the Committee.
2. Only one reply has been received, that of the Carlisle Angling Association as follows:-

"The Committee of the Carlisle Angling Association have the following observations to make as it affects the lower reaches of the River Eden.

 - (i) The cormorants come on to this part of the Eden during the winter, the main concentration being at Caldew Foot, where they roost.
 - (ii) In recent years the numbers at Caldew Foot have been around 30 birds. In early 1979, due to the exceptionally hard weather, the number increased to 60 or 70. As the nearest resident population is at Moricambe Bay and on the Solway coast, it is assumed that some of the birds could have come from northern Scotland.
 - (iii) The cormorants in the neighbourhood of Carlisle feed principally on the shoals of dace, which are numerous in this part of the river. They always depart around the end of March and none are seen when the smolts come down the river in May.
 - (iv) The Committee of the Carlisle Angling Association are not in favour of shooting these birds; they are not convinced that the removal of natural predators would materially affect the scarcity of the Atlantic salmon".
3. In view of the foregoing comments from the Association and the lack of response from other organisations it is recommended that no further action be taken in this matter.

NORTH CUMBRIA
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

16TH OCTOBER, 1979

REPORT BY THE AREA FISHERIES OFFICER ON FISHERIES ACTIVITIES

1. RIVER CONDITIONS AND FISHING

(i) Salmon and Sea Trout

After a moderate spate at the beginning of June, too early for the main sea trout and grilse runs, the rivers hardly rose above low summer level until August. There were some heavy but local showers in mid June and again in mid July but the fresh water came down heavily coloured and soon ran off, allowing only transitory improvements in salmon catches. The totals reported for these two months were 69 salmon from the Eden and 9 from the Border Esk. Moderate runs of sea trout did, however, make their way into the lower Eden and up the Border Esk into the Liddel. In these areas sea trout fishing produced widely varying results, with occasional fair catches being reported. River conditions improved in August with persistently showery weather throughout the month. This gave rise to variations in flow giving ideal fishing conditions and good flows for fish migration. Salmon stocks in both the Eden and Border Esk appeared to improve to satisfactory levels in comparison with recent years. Some good catches were reported from most beats, particularly on the Border Esk towards the end of the period. The totals reported for August were 22 for the Eden and 53 from the Border Esk. Few late sea trout came in and those already in freshwater were past their best and proved difficult to catch, but good runs of herling were reported from both the Border Esk and lower Eden.

(ii) Brown Trout

There appear to have been substantially fewer trout fishermen in the area than in past years and overall catches suffered accordingly. However, there was particularly good fishing on the upper Eden at the start of the low water period in June and again with the first fresh water in August. Ullswater also fished very well in early and mid August but was otherwise disappointing.

(iii) Coarse Fish

Catches by match fishermen were uniformly poor in June and July but showed considerable improvement in August when the best winning weight so far (10.1b. of dace) was taken near Armathwaite. The Irthing also fished well for dace and chub.

2. MIGRATORY FISH MOVEMENT

The commercial netsmen in the estuary report a generally poor season, and blame fluctuating river flows which have allowed fish to pass easily up into the river systems. This has also been reflected in the rivers in the area where mid-reach fisheries have tended to show better catches.

3. HOLMWRANGLE HATCHERY

(i) General Comment

Some mortalities have occurred over the past months due to a Furunculosis type of infection, which has occurred in the Wye salmon parr and in the 1 year + brown trout. An antibiotic treatment was administered, and the infections were abated. Bacteriological examination did not result in any positive diagnosis being made. This has occurred on two occasions over the past months.

(ii) Stock

	<u>Year Hatched</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1977</u>
Eden Salmon		18761*		
Wye Salmon			5536	
Kincardine Salmon		24204		
Border Esk Sea Trout		14744		
Brown Trout		14603	8114	70
Rainbow Trout		10409		

*Minimum stock evaluation.

(iii) Fish Distributed

During the period under review the following numbers of fish were distributed from the hatchery.

Brown Trout	4060
Salmon Parr	2950
Rainbow Trout	4013

Further details of the dates and locations of these stockings will be available to members at the meeting.

4. RESTOCKING BY THE WATER AUTHORITY

Fry planting into selected nursery streams was carried out in June as follows:-

<u>River</u>	<u>Salmon</u>	<u>Sea Trout</u>
Border Esk	12000	80000
Liddel	10000	70000
Lyne	-	25000
Eden	98000	-
Eamont	28000	-
Irthing	20000	-

5. RESTOCKING BY ANGLING ASSOCIATIONS ETC.

There have been four restockings to angling associations for their club waters etc. There have also been two introductions of fish and one of ova to the fish farm in the area.

6. POLLUTION INCIDENTS AND FISH MORTALITIES

- (i) Force Beck, Shap: On 31st July, 1979 a number of brown trout were killed. 24 dead fish of up to 14 oz. were recovered but other fish which had been killed were not recovered because the beck was in spate. The cause of the mortality was an accidental lime spillage at an adjoining quarry. The quarry owners have agreed to compensate for the loss.
- (ii) Beck Burn - Longtown: On 5th July, 1979 a discharge of farm effluent occurred. From inspection it was reported that only a few eels were killed by this pollution.
- (iii) There have been three incidents on the Border Esk system, two of which took place on the River Lyne and one on the Liddel. These are thought to have been caused as a result of attempts to use Cymag to take fish illegally. Due to the water conditions at the time of these incidents the number of fish involved has been small.

7. BIOLOGICAL WORK

An investigation into the salmonid fish populations and Diplostomum (eye fluke) infection on the River Irthing system was carried out, and a report has been produced by a student who has been working for the Authority as part of a M.Sc. Course in Applied Hydrobiology. The survey showed that the Diplostomum levels were lower than anticipated, and that there was no obvious correlation between the condition of the fish and the level of infection with Diplostomum.

A fish population survey of High Stands Pond (Shelly Pool) was carried out at the request of Wigan Angling Association.

8. CONSULTATION WITH OUTSIDE INTERESTS

Meetings have been held with representatives of the Solway River Purification Board and the Cumbria Sea Fisheries Committee to discuss matters of mutual interest.

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

F2/B3

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITY

NORTH CUMBRIA
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

16TH OCTOBER, 1979

DRAFT NETTING RIGHTS - RIVER EDEN -
CARLISLE CITY FREE BOAT FISHING RIGHT

1. At the meeting held on 12th July, 1979 (Minute No. 14), the Regional Committee approved the recommendations made at the last meeting of the Committee in relation to the acquisition by the Authority of certain draft netting rights in the River Eden.
2. These recommendations were subsequently discussed by the Policy and Resources Committee at the meeting held on 24th September, 1979, (Minute No. 25) who recommended as follows:-

"That the Authority take a lease for one year of the Carlisle City Free Boat Fishing Right at an annual rent of £225 with an option to enter into a longer lease, to enable during that time further investigation of other major ownerships and of the cost of acquisition in relation to the likely benefit to the fisheries of acquisition, and discussion with riparian owners in that part of the river above the section in which netting rights are exercised".
3. This is subject to the approval of the Authority at the meeting to be held on 15th October, 1979.